

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 00406 080750Z

14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 /015 W

----- 013961

R 080739Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6494

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 0406

FROM AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, TH, CASC

SUBJECT: VISA STATUS OF AAFLI PROGRAM DIRECTOR SUAZO

REF: STATE 302508

1. WE HAVE DELAYED REPLYING TO REFTEL UNTIL WE COULD TALK WITH SUAZO AGAIN ABOUT HIS VISA PROBLEMS. HE HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A HOLIDAY TRIP TO INDIA AND NEPAL AND HAS BROUGHT US UP TO DATE ON THIS SITUATION.

2. SUAZO HAS BEEN IN THAILAND ALMOST A YEAR, BUT HE AND HIS FAMILY ARE STILL REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE RTG DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AT TWO TO THREE WEEK INTERVALS TO OBTAIN EXTENSIONS OF THEIR VISAS. THIS IS NOT UNUSUAL. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAS BEEN IN A SIMILAR PREDICAMENT FOR OVER TWO YEARS DESPITE EMBASSY EFFORTS TO ASSIST HIM IN ARRANGING FOR A ONE YEAR VISA. WE HAVE INTERVENED ON SUAZO'S BEHALF BOTH BY DIPLOMATIC NOTES AND ORALLY WITH LABOR DEPARTMENT, INTERIOR MINISTRY AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS. SUAZO REPORTS THAT OUR DIPLOMATIC NOTE IN SEPTEMBER HELPED AND HE STILL USES THIS TO GET HIS PERIODIC EXTENSIONS RATHER THAN HAVING TO LEAVE THAILAND EVERY TWO OR THREE WEEKS AND REENTER AS IS THE CASE WITH MANY BUSINESSMEN AND OTHER FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

3. ON THE BASIS OF OUR TALK WITH SUAZO JANUARY 6, WE WILL RAISE THE ISSUE AGAIN OFFICIALLY WITH INTERIOR MINISTRY AND

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 00406 080750Z

MFA OFFICIALS. WE ARE FAR FROM CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THESE

EFFORTS WILL SUCCEED. KEEPING SUAZO ON A TIGHT LEASH MAY
WELL BE A MATTER OF THAI NATIONAL POLICY RATHER THAN
BUREAUCRATIC BUMBLING GIVEN THE PRESENT SENSITIVE STATE OF
THAI LABOR. TOO MUCH INTERVENTION ON OUR PART MIGHT BE
COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. REST ASSURED WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN.
MEANWHILE, DESPITE THE NUISANCE CREATED BY THESE FREQUENT
VISA RENEWALS, SUAZO IS ABLE TO OPERATE AND IS DOING GOOD
WORK.

WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISAS, VISITS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JAN 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO00406
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760006-0550
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760177/aaaacqni.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 302508
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISA STATUS OF AAFLI PROGRAM DIRECTOR SUAZO
TAGS: ELAB, CASC, TH, AAFLI, (SUAZO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006